



Administrative and Customer Services Division

Data Developments

BUREAU OF THE CENSUS
U.S. Department of Commerce
Washington, DC 20233

XXIII-3

April 2000

***The Survey of Program Dynamics (SPD) 1998
Calendar Year File*** *[machine-readable data file]/conducted
by the U.S. Census Bureau. -Washington: U.S. Census Bureau
[producer and distributor], 2000*

Type of File:

Microdata; unit of observation is an individual.

Universe Description:

The Survey of Program Dynamics (SPD) panel universe consists of people (including children) who resided in the United States civilian and military households and people living in group quarters in March 1992 and March 1993. (Note that people living in military barracks and institutions, such as prisons and nursing homes, are excluded.) This universe is represented by the original sample people (self or proxy interviewed in Wave 1) from the 1992 and 1993 SIPP panels, excluding those who left the universe before the interview date in 1998.

Introduction:

The 1998 SPD is an unedited file which provides socio-economic data for calendar year 1997. It is intended as an *experimental file* to allow experienced users to conduct longitudinal analyses by matching to the SPD 1997 Bridge and the Survey of Income and Program Participation (SIPP) 1992 and 1993 Panel Longitudinal files. To link the files, at a person level, users will need to match on the following keys: SIPP panel number, sample unit identification number, person number and entry ID (SIPP_PNL, PP_ID, PP_PNUM and PP_ENTRY).

For the 1997 SPD Bridge survey, the regional office staff interviewed 29,619 households from retired 1992 and 1993 SIPP panels. From the 29,619 households interviewed in 1997, we selected a subsample of 19,129 households for the continuing SPD sample because of budget limits. Low income households and households with children were selected with certainty or near certainty. Middle and high income households without children had a 1 in 4 chance of being selected for the sample.

The 1998 SPD data collection operation produced the following results:

Eligible:	
Interviews	16,395
Non-interviews - Located	2,211
Non-interviews - Unlocated	<u>637</u>
Total Eligible	19,243
Temporarily Ineligible:	
Institutionalized	201
Permanently Ineligible:	
Deceased, Left country or in Armed Forces	222

NOTE: The number of eligible cases (19,243) is larger than the sample size (19,129) due to the inclusion of spawned cases.

The SPD provides estimates of the economic status and activities of the population of the United States. The SPD is designed to provide a large amount of detailed and supplementary data on income, job participation, program participation and the well-being of adults and children. Such data are made available to meet a wide variety of needs, but are collected primarily to study the effect of welfare reform.

Subject-Matter Description:

The file contains basic demographic, economic, and social characteristics data for each member of the households. The subject matter is described as follows:

Demographic: Data on age, sex, race, ethnic origin, marital status, household relationship, education, and veteran status. Demographic data refer to the time of the interview.

Economic:

- * **Work Experience** - Comprehensive work experience information is given on the employment status, occupation, industry, weeks worked and hours per week worked, total income and income components for people 15 years old and older. Most data on employment refer to the preceding year. However, some questions refer to the week before the interview (current employment status).
- * **Income** - Data covering income sources such as income from jobs, net income from businesses, farm or rent, pensions, dividends, interest, and social security payments. Data on income refer to the preceding year.
- * **Noncash benefits** - Data covering noncash income sources such as food stamps, the school lunch program, employer-provided group health insurance plan, employer-provided pension plans, personal health insurance, Medicaid, Medicare, CHAMPUS or military health care, and energy assistance. Most data on noncash benefits refer to the preceding year. However, some questions refer to the week before the interview.

Social:

- * **Adult** - Data on adult-related issues such as educational enrollment, work training, functional limitation and disability, health care utilization, health insurance, and food security. The data do not always reference the same period.

- * Children - Data on child-related issues such as: school enrollment, enrichment activities, disability, health care utilization, mother's work schedule, child care, child support agreement, and contact with absent parent. The data do not always reference the same period.

Geographic Coverage:

The geographic coverage area is the United States. The file contains codes for 41 individual states, plus the District of Columbia. *However, the sample is not designed to produce state estimates.* The SPD sample in the nine remaining states are identified in three groups for confidentiality reasons. The three groups are as follows: Maine and Vermont; Iowa, North Dakota, and South Dakota; and Alaska, Idaho, Montana, and Wyoming.

Technical Description:

File Structure: The file is a rectangular person-level file. Household-level variables are included on the record for every person in the household. There are no family-level variables in the file.

File Size: 56,497 Records

File Sort Sequence

of Sample Units: Sampling unit sequence number by entry address ID by person number within sampling unit.

Reference Materials:

Survey of Program Dynamics (SPD) 1998 Technical Documentation. The documentation includes this abstract, the data dictionary, an index to the data dictionary, relevant code lists, questionnaire facsimiles, and general information on SPD. The technical documentation is also available on the U.S. Census Bureau's SPD Internet site at <http://www.sipp.census.gov/spd>

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Survey of Income and Program Participation (SIPP) User's Guide. The User's Guide contains a general overview of the SIPP file as well as chapters on the SIPP survey design and content, structure and use of cross-sectional files, linking waves and reliability of the data. Copies are available from Marketing Services Office, Customer Services Center, U.S. Census Bureau, Washington, DC 20233. An updated version of the SIPP User's Guide is also available at the U.S. Census Bureau's SIPP Internet site at <http://www.sipp.census.gov/sipp> under Publications and Analysis.

Survey of Income and Program Participation Quality Profile. The Quality Profile summarizes the SIPP sample design, sample selection, and data collection procedures. More importantly, the report also summarizes, in convenient form, what is known about the sources and magnitude of errors in estimates from the SIPP. Without such summaries, users wanting information about the quality of the SIPP estimates would need to search through a large body of literature, some of which is not easily accessible. The report covers both sampling and nonsampling error; however, the primary emphasis is on the latter. Copies of this report are available from Marketing Services Office, Customer Services Center, U.S. Census Bureau, Washington, DC 20233. An updated version of the SIPP Quality Profile is also available at the SIPP Internet site at <http://www.sipp.census.gov/sipp> under "Methodology."

Additional information (that is, methodology, overview and data access) may also be obtained by visiting the SPD Internet site at <http://www.sipp.census.gov/spd> and the SIPP Internet site at <http://www.sipp.census.gov/sipp>

Related Printed Reports:

Related printed reports include working papers, compilations of papers presented at annual meetings of the American Statistical Association (*Proceedings of the American Statistical Association*), articles appearing in the *Journal of Economic and Social Measurement*, and reports in the P-70 series of the Current Population Reports. Some of these reports are available on the U.S. Census Bureau Internet site at <http://www.census.gov> and the SIPP Internet site at <http://www.sipp.census.gov/sipp>

Related Electronic Data Files:

The SIPP 1992 and 1993 Longitudinal files and the 1997 SPD Bridge file are available from Marketing Services Office, Customer Services Center, U. S. Census Bureau, Washington, D.C. 20233. Extract files may also be downloaded from the SIPP Internet site at <http://www.sipp.census.gov/sipp> under "Data Access" using either the Federal Electronic Research and Review Extraction Tool (FERRET) or Data Extraction System (DES) extraction systems. Extract files may be downloaded from the SPD Internet site at <http://www.sipp.census.gov/spd> under Data Access using FERRET.

File Availability:

Files are available on CD-ROM (compact disc-readable) in ASCII. They may be ordered from Marketing Services Office, Customer Services Center using the [order form](#) on the following page. Call Customer Services at 301-457-4100 for price information. Information on the SPD and some SIPP files may be accessed on the internet at <http://www.census.gov/ftp/pub/mp/www/tape/mstap17c.html> The SPD files may also be accessed from the SPD Internet site at <http://www.sipp.census.gov/spd> The SIPP files may also be accessed from the SIPP Internet site at <http://www.sipp.census.gov/sipp> The files also may be made available on IBM 3480 compatible tape cartridge. A machine-readable dictionary is contained at the end of each file. This dictionary also is available separately on one tape reel or cartridge. The SPD and the SIPP files can be made available on computer tape at 6,250 bytes per inch, ASCII or EBCDIC, and standard ANSI labeling.

Additional Information:

Additional information on particular subjects can be obtained by contacting an office listed below.

	Division	Branch	Contact Phone Number
Weighting	Demographic Statistical Methods	Survey of Income and Program Participation	301-457-4192
Demographics and Children's Issues	Population	Fertility and Family Statistics	301-457-2465
Education, Work Training, and Food Security	Population	Education and Social Stratification	301-457-2464
Labor Force and Program Eligibility	Housing and Household Economic Statistics	Labor Force and Transfer Statistics	301-457-3230
Income Sources and Child Support	Housing and Household Economic Statistics	Income Statistics	301-457-3212
Health Insurance and Disability	Housing and Household Economic Statistics	Poverty and Health Statistics	301-457-3213
Survey Operation	Demographic Surveys	Continuing Surveys	301-457-3819
Health Care Utilization	Demographic Surveys	Survey Improvement Coordination Staff	301-457-3822

Interim Unedited Calendar Year Files:

So that the research community can assess the quality of the SPD sample and make some preliminary assessment of the immediate effect of welfare reform, we are issuing this interim unedited calendar year file from the 1998 SPD survey. This file includes match keys to merge SPD and earlier SIPP data. These match keys link data for each person between the SIPP and Bridge files, for people who were interviewed in SIPP.

Use the following variables to match back to the SIPP at the person level:

SIPP Panel Number	SIPP_PNL
Sample Unit Identification Number	PP_ID
Entry ID	PP_ENTRY
Person Number	PP_PNUM

Use the following variables to match back to the SIPP at the household level:

SIPP Panel Number	SIPP_PNL
Sample Unit Identification Number	PP_ID
Address ID	ADDIDU8

CAUTION STATEMENT:

The 1998 SPD Calendar Year file data have undergone no editing and limited review and should be used carefully.

A note of caution about this calendar year file. The file appears to be a cross-sectional snapshot of the population, but it is not. This file represents one segment in an array of longitudinal data being produced for the SPD. The weights in the SPD 1998 Calendar Year file are longitudinal, therefore, they are only valid for estimates of the characteristics of the cohorts of people who were represented by the original sample person from the SIPP 1992 and 1993 panels. An original sample person is a sample person who was a self or proxy respondent in Wave 1 of the SIPP 1992 or 1993 panel. In the SPD 1998 Calendar Year file, the person number of an original sample person is in the 100 level. Children born since the beginning of the SIPP panel do not receive longitudinal weights in this first file. Consequently, the distribution of population by age will be skewed toward the older population. Users can construct an approximate weight for these children by assigning the weights of the mother to each child.